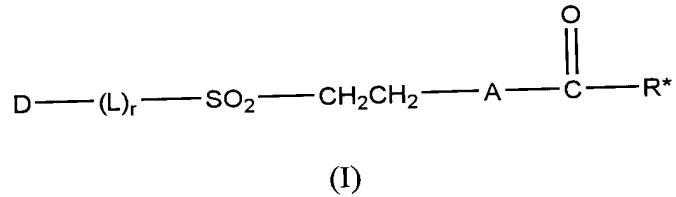
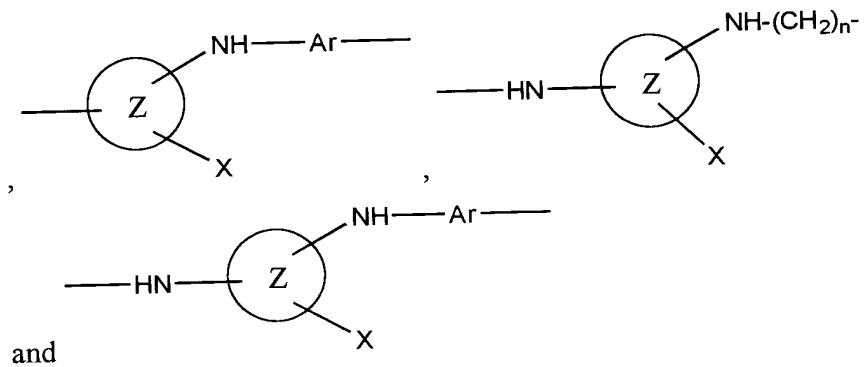


(CH₂)_n, peptides and polypeptides; wherein R₁ and R₂ is independently selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, wherein n is an integer in the range of 1 to 4 wherein within the same molecule n is not necessarily the same integer and wherein R# corresponds to an amino acid sidechain.

3. A reactive dye according to claim 2 wherein R* is selected from the group consisting of (CH₂)_nSH, (CH₂)_nNH₂, C₆H₄N, CH(R#)NH₂, CH(CH₃)OH, CH(CH₃)O(CO)CH(CH₃)OH, C(OH)(CH₂COOH)₂, CH₂C(OH)(COOH)CH₂COOH, C(H)(CH₃)OH, C(H)(OH)CH₂COOH, CH₂C(H)(OH)COOH, C(H)(OH)C(H)(OH)COOH, C₆H₄OH and C₆H₄NH₂.
4. A reactive dye compound according to claim 3 wherein R* is C(OH)(CH₂COOH)₂ or CH₂C(OH)(COOH)CH₂COOH.
5. A reactive dye compound according to claim 1 wherein A is O.
6. A reactive dye compound having the formula (I):





wherein Ar is an aryl group, Y is halogen or O(C=O)R*, n is an integer of from 1 to 4, Z is a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, X is selected from the group consisting of thio-derivatives, halogens, amines, alkoxy groups, carboxylic acid groups, CN, N3, and quaternized nitrogen derivatives (Q+);

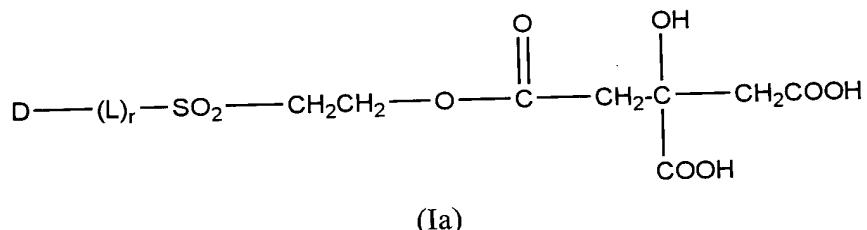
A is O or S,

R* is selected from the group consisting of (CH₂)_nSH, (CH₂)_nNH₂, CH(CH₃)OH, CH(CH₃)O(CO)CH(CH₃)OH, derivatives of a polyester of citric acid, CH(OH)(CH₂COOH)₂, CH₂(OH)(CO₂H)CH₂COOH, C(OH)(H)CH₂COOH, CH₂C(H)(OH)COOH, C(OH)(H)C(OH)(H)COOH, (CH₂)_nNHR¹R², CH₂NHNH₂, CH₂NHOH, CH₂SMe, CHNH₂(CH₂)_n(COOH), CHNH₂CH₂SMe, CHNH₂CH₂SSCH₂CHNH₂COOH, CHNH₂CH₂SO₃H, C₆H₄OH, C₆H₄COOH, C₆H₄NH₂, C₆H₄N, (CH₂)_nC₆H₄N, CH(R#)NH₂, (CH₂)_nSSO₃⁻, (CH₂)_n-S-S-, (CH₂)_n, peptide and polypeptide derivatives linked to the vinylsulphone group via their terminal carboxylic acid group; wherein R₁ and R₂ is independently selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, wherein n is an integer in the range of 1 to 4 wherein within the same molecule n is not necessarily the same integer and wherein R# corresponds to an amino acid sidechain;

and salts thereof.

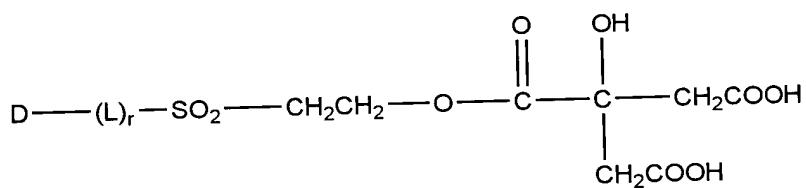
7. A reactive dye according to Claim 6 wherein R* is selected from the group consisting of (CH₂)_nSH, (CH₂)_nNH₂, C₆H₄N, CH(R#)NH₂, CH(CH₃)OH, CH(CH₃)O(CO)CH(CH₃)OH, C(OH)(CH₂COOH)₂, CH₂C(OH)(COOH)CH₂COOH, C(H)(CH₃)OH, C(H)(OH)CH₂COOH, CH₂C(H)(OH)COOH, C(H)(OH)C(H)(OH)COOH, C₆H₄OH and C₆H₄NH₂.

8. A reactive dye according to claim 6 wherein R* is selected from the group consisting of $\text{C}(\text{OH})(\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$, $\text{CH}_2\text{C}(\text{OH})(\text{COOH})\text{CH}_2\text{COOH}$ and derivatives of a citric acid polymer.
9. A reactive dye compound according to claim 6 wherein A is O.
10. A reactive dye compound having the structure:



wherein D, L, r are as defined above.

11 A reactive dye compound having the structure:



(Ib)

wherein D, L and r are as defined above.

12. Method of using a compound according to claim 1 for dyeing cellulosic substrates.
13. Method of using a compound according to claim 1 for dyeing wool.
14. Method of using a compound according to claim 1 for dyeing polyamide substrates.
15. Method of using a compound according to claim 1 for dyeing silk.
16. Method of using a compound according to claim 1 for dyeing keratin.
17. Method of using a compound according to claim 1 for dyeing leather.

18. Process for the preparation of a compound according to claim 1 comprising the steps of reacting a first starting material with a second starting material, the first starting material comprising at least one chromophore, at least one $\text{SO}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ which is attached to the chromophore group either directly via the sulphur atom of the $\text{SO}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ group or via a linking group L, the second starting material comprising an oxy- or thio-carbonyl group.

19. Process according to Claim 18 wherein the process is carried out at a pH of from about 2 to about 8

20. Process according to Claim 18 or 19 wherein the second starting material is added to the first starting material slowly.

21. Product obtainable by a process according to claim 18.

22. A dye composition comprising the compound of claim 1.

23. A dye composition according to Claim 22 wherein the composition is in the form of a solid mixture and further comprises an acid buffer.

24. A dye composition according to Claim 22 wherein the composition is in the form of a liquid and further comprises water and an acid buffer.

25. A dye composition according to Claim 22 wherein the composition is in the form of a paste and further comprises water, thickening agent and an acid buffer.

26. A dye composition according to claim 22 wherein the pH is from about 2 to about 3.

Basis lies, at least, in the claims as originally filed. These amendments are being entered to bring the claims into conformance with, *inter alia*, 37 CFR §1.75; no new matter is added.

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Respectfully submitted,

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